

Message Text

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PAGE 01 VALLET 01011 01 OF 02 062119Z
ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY VALLETTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7605

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 VALLETTA 1011

STADIS////////////////////////////////

(C O R R E C T E D C O P Y U P G R A D E D T O I M M E D I A T E)

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGEN, XX
SUBJECT: GOALS AND TASKS FOR THE AMBASSADOR

REF: A. STATE 202267, B. STATE 20458, C. STATE 204925,

MY COMMENTS ON DRAFT GOLS AND TASKS STATED IN STATE 204925
ARE INCORPORATED IN THE REVISED TEXT GIVEN BELOW. MY REASONS
FOLLOW EACH PARA AND SUB-PARA.

BEGIN TEXT

I. ENCOURAGE THE MALTESE GOVERNMENT TO CONTINUE DENYING
MALTESE PORTS AND INSTALLATIONS TO NAVAL SHIPS AND MILITARY
AIRCRAFT OF THE USSR AND WARSAW PACT POWERS.

COMMENT: WE NOW HAVE DENIAL OF MALTESE PORTS AND INSTALLATIONS
TO NAVAL SHIPS AND MILITARY AIRCRAFT OF THE USSR AND WARSAW
PACT POWERS (COMMERCIAL CRAFT OF THESE POWERS DO HAVE ACCESS).
OUR JOB IS TO ENCOURAGE THE GOM TO CONTINUE THIS POLICY.
THE PHRASE "POTENTIALLY HOSTILE NATIONS" IS TOO BROAD A TERM
TO BE MEANINGFUL; E.G. LIBYAN MILITARY AIRCRAFT AND SHIPS ALREADY
HAVE ACCESS.

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PAGE 02 VALLET 01011 01 OF 02 062119Z

IA. OPPOSE THE FORMATION OF POLITICO-MILITARY ARRANGEMENTS
WITH THE USSR.

COMMENT: THIS IS OUR OVERRIDING STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE HERE AND
SHOULD BE SO STATED.

IB. MONITOR CLOSELY MALTA'S EFFORTS TO DEVELOP POLITICO/MILITARY ARRANGEMENTS WITH ITS NEIGHBORING STATES SO THAT APPROPRIATE AND TIMELY ACTION CAN BE TAKEN BY THE USG TO DISCOURAGE ARRANGEMENTS THAT MIGHT BE OR BECOME INIMICAL TO OUR INTERESTS.

COMMENT: I HAVE ADDED THIS ITEM BECAUSE IT STATES OUR TASK OF DOING WHAT WE CAN TO ASSURE THAT WE CAN LIVE WITH THE NEUTRALITY/ SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS BEING EVOLVED IN THE DIALOGUE BETWEEN THE GOM AND ITS NEIGHBORING STATES; E.G. WHAT KIND OF LIBYAN MILITARY PRESENCE AND GUARANTEES ARE TOLERABLE; WHAT ASSURANCES DO WE THINK OUR EUROPEAN ALLIES SHOULD SEEK AS TO MILITARY ACCESS; WHAT IF THE GOM CONDITIONS SUCH ACCESS ON EQUAL WARSAW PACT (NON-SOVIET) ACCESS, ETC.?

IC. ENCOURAGE THE DEVELOPMENT OF A SELF-SUSTAINING MALTESE ECONOMY LESS DEPENDENT ON OUTSIDE ASSISTANCE AND THUS MAKE MALTA LESS SUSCEPTIBLE TO INFLUENCES INCOMPATIBLE WITH OUR SECURITY INTERESTS.

COMMENT: CHANGED TO MAKE MORE GENERAL; E.G. LIBYAN ECONOMIC AID IS ALREADY A FACT, WILL PROBABLY CONTINUE, AND IS NOT NECESSARILY CONTRARY TO OUR INTERESTS.

II. ENCOURAGE POLITICO/SECURITY ORIENTATION TO THE WEST.

COMMENT: NO CHANGE.
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PAGE 03 VALLET 01011 01 OF 02 062119Z

II.A. ENCOURAGE OUR EUROPEAN ALLIES (E.G. FRANCE, ITALY, SPAIN, AND GERMANY) TO CONTINUE A DIALOGUE WITH MINTOFF THAT WILL PROVIDE EFFECTIVE BILATERAL FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CONTRIBUTING TO A SELF-SUSTAINING ECONOMY AND, IN TURN, ENSURING POLITICO-MILITARY ARRANGEMENTS ACCEPTABLE TO WESTERN INTERESTS.

COMMENT: GERMANY HAS BEEN ADDED AS A COUNTRY ALREADY PROVIDING ASSISTANCE AND ONE WHICH THE ITALIANS AND FRENCH CERTAINLY EXPECT TO PROVIDE EVEN MORE. GERMAN ASSISTANCE IS STRONGLY IN OUR INTERESTS.

II.B. MAINTAIN OUR CURRENT POSITION THAT THE U.S. DOES NOT NOW FORESEE FURTHER FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO MALTA IN THE POST-1979 PERIOD.

COMMENT: SEPARATED OUT FROM II.A. ABOVE AS A SEPARATE ITEM. THE KEY WORD IN THIS TASK STATEMENT IS "NOW". WE SHOULD AND DO MAINTAIN NOW, WITH THE GOM AND WITH OUR EUROPEAN ALLIES, THAT MALTA SHOULD NOT LOOK TO US FOR FURTHER FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE (MEANING THE CURRENT DIRECT PAYMENTS) AFTER 1979. HOWEVER WE

CANNOT AND SHOULD NOT EXCLUDE ANY AND ALL ASSISTANCE, SINCE WHAT WE WILL BE DEALING WITH IN THE POST-1979 PERIOD IS NOT YET CLEAR. IT MAY WELL BE THAT ACHIEVING OUR STATED OBJECTIVE IN SECTION I ABOVE WILL YET REQUIRE SOME FORM OF USG ASSISTANCE; FOR THE MATTER WE ARE ALREADY OFFERING TO FACILITATE GOM PURCHASE ACCESS TO THE AID/EPD EXCESS PROPERTY PROGRAM.

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PAGE 01 VALLET 01011 02 OF 02 061504Z
ACTION EUR-12

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 VALLETTA 1011

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II.C. FOCUS VISITOR PROGRAMS ON POLITICAL FIGURES,
ECONOMIC LEADERS, AND EFFECTIVE REPRESENTATIVES
OF THE PUBLIC MEDIA.

COMMENT: NO SIGNIFICANT CHANGE.

II.D. WORK WITH THE ENTIRE SPECTRUM OF POLITICAL ACTIVITY IN
MALTA IN PREPARATION FOR THE ADVENT OF A FRIENDLIER GOVERNMENT,
WHILE MAINTAINING THE CLOSEST POSSIBLE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE
PRESENT LABOR GOVERNMENT.

COMMENT: CHANGED TO EMPHASIZE THAT OUR INTERESTS DICTATE
THAT WE HAVE THE CLOSEST POSSIBLE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE PARTY
AND GOVERNMENT THAT WE EXPECT TO BE IN POWER ANOTHER 4 YEARS.

II.E. EMPHASIZE AND BROADEN OUR INFORMATIONAL AND CULTURAL
ACTIVITY IN MALTA TO REMIND THE MALTESE OF THE ADVANTAGES
FOR THEM OF PRESERVING THEIR TRADITIONAL WESTERN ORIENTATION.

COMMENT: I HAVE ADDED THIS TASK STATEMENT TO EMPHASIZE THE
IMPORTANCE OF USING OUR INFORMATION AND CULTURAL PROGRAMS HERE
TO PRESERVE AND EXPAND ON THE STRONG BASE FOR A BETTER FUTURE
OFFICIAL RELATIONSHIP THAT THE TRADITIONAL WESTERN ORIENTATION
OF THE VAST MAJORITY OF MALTESE PEOPLE AND INSTITUTIONS PROVIDES

TO US.
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PAGE 02 VALLET 01011 02 OF 02 061504Z

II.F. ENCOURAGE BETTER MALTESE REPRESENTATION IN THE UNITED STATES.

COMMENT: NO CHANGE.

II.G. WORK FOR GREATER APPRECIATION BY MALTA OF U.S. INTERESTS AT THE UN AND IN OTHER SPECIALIZED INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES, ESPECIALLY ON ISSUES OF MAJOR IMPORTANCE TO THE U.S; E.G. PUERTO RICO.

COMMENT: CHANGED TO REFLECT THE FACT THAT OUR PROBLEM WITH THE GOM IS NOT OVERT "HOSTILITY" AS SUCH BUT RATER ITS ALMOST AUTOMATIC LINING-UP WITH THE GROUP OF 77 AND OTHER THIRD WORLD GROUPINGS ON EACH AND EVERY INTERNATIONAL ISSUE WITHOUT MUCH THOUGHT OF ANY KIND FOR THE IMPACT OF ALL THIS ON ITS RELATIONS WITH US.

III. FOSTER DEVELOPMENT OF THE MALTESE ECONOMY AND PROMOTE MALTA'S ECONOMIC TIES WITH THE WEST.

COMMENT: NO CHANGE.

III.A. PROMOTE MEANS BY WHICH THE PRIVATE SECTOR - EUROPEAN AND AMERICAN - CAN CONTRIBUTE TO GROWTH IN MALTA; E.G. INVESTMENT, TOURISM, EDUCATIONAL COOPERATION AND EXCHANGE.

COMMENT: NO CHANGE

III.B. FOSTER IMPROVEMENTS IN THE MALTESE CLIMATE OF INVESTMENT, BOTH BY ENCOURAGING A MORE AGGRESSIVE EFFORT BY MALTA TO PUBLICIZE WHAT IT HAS TO OFFER AND BY REMINDING MINTOFF OF THE IMPACT ON THE INVESTMENT CLIMATE OF HIS FOREIGN POLICY STATEMENTS
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PAGE 03 VALLET 01011 02 OF 02 061504Z

AND ACTIONS.

COMMENT: I HAVE CHANGED THIS TASK STATEMENT FOR PURPOSES OF CLARITY. IF MINTOFF WANTS MORE PRIVATE, ESPECIALLY U.S. INVESTMENT HERE HE NEEDS TO MAKE A MORE AGGRESSIVE SALES PITCH, WITH SUBSTANTIVE INCENTIVES; HE NEEDS ALSO TO REALIZE THE ADVERSE IMPACT THAT HIS FOREIGN POLICY POSTURE AND STATEMENTS, ESPECIALLY THOSE OF THE PAST, HAVE HAD ON THE PERCEPTION AMONG

THE FOREIGN BUSINESS COMMUNITY OF MALTA AS A PLACE TO INVEST.
LET'S FACE IT, MALTA'S (MINTOFF'S) IMAGE IN THE WEST IS
LOUSY.

III.C. SEEK A RESOLUTION OF THE U.S. GOVERNMENT CLAIM AGAINST
MALTA ARISING FROM ITS TAKEOVER OF THE PHOENIX TEXTILE
COMPANY.

COMMENT: NO SIGNIFICANT CHANGE.

III.D. CLOSELY MONITOR MALTESE ECONOMIC INDICATORS, ESPECIALLY
THOSE AFFECTING THE NEED FOR FOREIGN ASSISTANCE IN THE CRITICAL
POST-1979 PERIOD.

COMMENT: NO SIGNIFICANT CHANGE. LAINGEN

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